

Devotional—day 6

"Day By Day"

EPISCOPAL HYMN #429

Day by day,
Dear Lord, of Thee three things pray:
To see Thee more clearly,
Love Thee more dearly,
Follow Thee more nearly,
Day by Day. Amen.

- St. Richard of Chichester, 1197-1253

Luke 9:23-27 (New Living Translation)

23 Then he said to the crowd, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must put aside your selfish ambition, shoulder your cross **daily**, and follow me. **24** If you try to keep your life for yourself, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for me, you will find true life. **25** And how do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose or forfeit your own soul in the process? **26** If a person is ashamed of me and my message, I, the Son of Man, will be ashamed of that person when I return in my glory and in the glory of the Father and the holy angels. **27** And I assure you that some of you standing here right now will not die before you see the Kingdom of God."

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NIV)

16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed **day by day**. **17** For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. **18** So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

1 Timothy 4:6-10 (The Message)

6 You've been raised on the Message of the faith and have followed sound teaching. Now pass on this counsel to the Christians there, and you'll be a good servant of Jesus. **7** Stay clear of silly stories that get dressed up as religion. Exercise **daily** in God--no spiritual flabbiness, please! **8** Workouts in the gymnasium are useful, but a disciplined life in God is far more so, making you fit both today and forever. **9** You can count on this. Take it to heart. **10** This is why we've thrown ourselves into this venture so totally. We're banking on the living God, Savior of all men and women, especially believers.

Hebrews 3:12-13 (NIV)

12 Brothers and sisters, make sure that none of you has a sinful heart. Do not let an unbelieving heart turn you away from the living God. **13** But build one another up **every day**. Do it as long as there is still time. Then none of you will become stubborn. You won't be fooled by sin's tricks.

St. Richard of Chichester (1197-1253)

Bishop and leading figure in England during his era, also called Richard de Wyche. Born at Wyche, Worcestershire, England, he was orphaned while a young lad, managed to regain his fortune which had been mismanaged by others, and received an excellent education at Oxford, Paris, and Bologna, Italy. He earned a doctorate in law from the University of Bologna.



In 1235, he was appointed chancellor of Oxford and then chancellor to Edmund Rich, who was archbishop of Canterbury. After accompanying Edmund into retirement at the Cistercian abbey of Pontigny, France, he departed the community upon Edmund's death, taught at the Dominican house in Orkans, and was ordained there in 1243. Upon returning home to England, he was named chancellor to Edmund's successor, St. Boniface of Savoy.

When King Henry III appointed Ralph Neville to the seat of Chichester in 1244, Boniface declared the nomination invalid and named Richard to the post, an act which caused an uproar in the kingdom. Finally, in 1245, Pope Innocent IV found in Richard's favor, but Richard was prevented from entering the palace by the machinations of Henry. Only after the king was threatened with excommunication was Richard able to take up his duties. He insisted upon strict adherence to discipline among the clergy, aided the poor, and fearlessly denounced the corruption and vices of the contemporary Church and the royal court.

His death came at Dover, in a home for poor priests, while delivering a plea for a crusade.

*"Thanks be to Thee, my Lord Jesus Christ
For all the benefits Thou hast given me,
For all the pains and insults
Which Thou has borne for me.
O most merciful Redeemer, Friend, and Brother,
May I know Thee more clearly,
Love Thee more dearly,
Follow Thee more nearly,
Day by day. Amen."*

Time for personal reflection (Day 6):

“Day by day” - How often do I truly ask to see God’s face? To see Him in the world around me?

“Day by day” - How often do I truly ask God to help me love Him more than I already do?

“Day by day” - How often do I truly ask God to help me truly follow Him and His commands?

1 Timothy 4:6-10 says to “Exercise daily in God...” What does exercising in God look like to me?

Based on my own definition of exercising daily in God, how well do I follow the daily exercise plan?

How can I maintain (or gain) the daily discipline of exercising in God during the upcoming hectic tour schedule?

Time for personal reflection...

My constant prayer for the tour...